

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/APU:RCFELDER:JC

APPROVED BY ARA/APU:CEBARTCH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:BTRA, AR

SUBJECT: VISIT BY NON-OFFICIAL U.S. CITIZENS TO ARGENTINA

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REF: B.A. 6949

1. DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONTINUES TO RESPOND TO LARGE VOLUME OF PUBLIC TELEPHONIC INQUIRIES ON SAFETY OF TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA BY POINTING OUT THAT DEPARTMENT IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, DISCOURAGING TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA AT THIS TIME. CALLERS ARE TOLD THAT DESPITE THE NUMBER OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS, WHICH ARE REPORTED DAILY IN NEWSPAPERS HERE, THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT TEMPORARY U.S. VISITORS TO THE COUNTRY, BE THEY TOURISTS OR BUSINESSMEN, ARE IN PARTICULAR JEOPARDY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE POINT OUT THAT A DECISION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA MUST NECESSARILY BE TAKEN BY THE INTERESTED INDIVIDUAL, AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER SAFETY.

2. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TOLD BY PROSPECTIVE BUSINESSMEN TRAVELERS TO ARGENTINA THAT USDOC PERSONNEL HAD ADVISED THEM NOT TO GO THERE. IN EACH CASE,
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WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO CORRECT CALLERS' UNDERSTANDING OF U.S.

POLICY ON TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA. WE WILL AGAIN BRING OUR
POLICY ON THIS MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE USDOC
OFFICES AND WILL ASK THEM TO FOLLOW IT IN DEALING WITH
INQUIRIES. INGERSOLL

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